

MUCH UNSETTLEMENT IN DOMESTIC WHEAT

At Times During Early Part of Week Business Almost Suspended—Receipts Higher and Stocks Decreasing

New York, March 30.—At times during the early part of the week, business on domestic wheat markets was almost suspended, the stagnation being largely chargeable to the crippled condition of the telegraphic service. On account of the storms and floods, wires were prostrated over an extensive area, and communication between virtually all markets. East and West was impossible during long periods. Few figures were received showing receipts and shipments at Western points, and for a long time traders moved entirely in the dark.

inclined to think that the injury, if any, would be offset by the benefits derived from rain or snow on higher ground.

Receipts at interior points were cut down by the bad weather, but to what extent could not be determined, owing to the crippled wire service. During the latter part of the week there was continued feverishness and unsettledness among traders manifesting timidity because of the continued uncertainty and the uncertainty prevailing respecting the probable outcome in flooded districts in the central West.

Naturally much confusion and unsettlement obtained, and business was further restricted by the scarcity of important cable advices from abroad, especially those of an official nature being absent. The big grain open markets were closed in holiday observance. There was at times a slightly firmer tendency, which was partly attributed to an appreciable advance in Buenos Ayres. In addition, the price of some cargoes were somewhat higher than expected; nevertheless, there was an increase in the quantity on passage. Afterwards, the greater steadiness was ascribed to an unexpectedly large decrease in the visible supply and a big action in the world's available supply of wheat bushels, whereas there was an increase a year ago of 2,676,000 bushels.

Farm Reserves. Momentary depression was caused by rumors of a stringent export policy. Agriculture had deviated from the normal method in giving out the report of farm reserves March 1, having failed to include the quantity set aside for seed, some 20 million bushels. As this had been formerly included, it was promptly assumed that the actual total was 172,000,000 bushels. Instead of 166,000,000 bushels, as published. Consequently, the reaction was violent when it was officially announced that the rumor was unfounded. Anxiety among short sellers was partly ascribed to the unreasonably cold weather. The mercury fell to 12 degrees above zero, and the day was regarded as especially unfortunate, arriving after so much rain. Moreover, shorts were nervous, apprehending that the Ohio floods would result in decreased demand for large, but conservative merchants over the

orders for hard wheat both spring and winter, to arrive. Unfortunately, it was found to be exceedingly difficult to get the wheat to the mills, the crippled mill service. Still, it is believed that exporters had booked over 350,000 bushels, part opening of lake navigation. March shorts were anxious to get a sale, and the market was in Paris, and particularly in the latter, where the usual "squeeze" took place, but the distant deliveries were held down by unexpectedly large exports from Argentina.

Dull Trading in Corn. In corn the trading was dull and the fluctuations narrow. There was a slightly higher tendency, as shorts were anxious to cover, and the smaller receipts at primary points, the expectation of a still lighter movement owing to the floods. There was a fair export inquiry for oats to arrive, and probably over 200,000 bushels.

Odds and Ends From the Wire

HEN PLAYS STEFFLAGETTE.

Snowball Wants to Carry Her Share of Correspondence.

York, Pa., March 30.—The suffragette movement has reached the hens in York County. Wilford Lau, of Spring Grove, has a white Leghorn which has so far risen above the drudgery of laying eggs and hatching out broods that she insists upon accompanying her owner to the post-office for his mail. If a letter is given her she carries it home in her beak.

She is also adept at leaping over a 6-foot fence, and is 18 inches high, and meets Lau at the garden gate upon his return home. Her name is "Snowball."

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MAYOR RIDDLE UNDER ARREST.

who had been on the force only three days, turned over his revolver and other equipment to Captain Henry, of the Central District, and said he was going to quit. Three days ago he was made a patrolman, and given night duty, being assigned to the beat from Mount Royal Avenue to Bladde Street and Chase Street to Guilford Avenue.

"The job is all right for some one who wants to hang around and do nothing," he told the police captain this morning. "I was not in some work for my living. There is nothing for a man to do but to walk around and to see the sights, but thinking all the time. Even a graveyard would seem like an Elks' carnival compared to that neighborhood after 5 o'clock at night."

Militant Reformer Accused Shore Executive of Perjury.

Atlantic City, March 30.—On a warrant issued at the instance of Simon Fisher, militant reformer, Mayor William Riddle was arrested, charged with influencing Augustus Fisher, colored, to perjure himself. Fisher was arrested Wednesday on the charge of perjury, perjury was also claimed that the negro had falsely sworn that he had entered into conspiracy for bringing about Mayor Riddle's political undoing. Fisher was in \$100 bail for the grand jury. The Mayor appeared before Judge Griffin, also colored, sworn after the warrant has been served upon him and gave bail for \$200 in his own recognizance for his appearance before the grand jury. Fisher had been inquisitor for some time, but he now declares that he is on the warpath, and that he is going after the "men

BANK BANDIT SOON SLAIN.

Shot Down by posse Few Minutes After Killing a Cashier.

Barnes, Kan., March 30.—Robert I. Brown, cashier of the Barnes State bank, was shot and killed by a man who robbed the institution. Later a posse of citizens shot the robber to death as he was trying to escape with a bank of \$300 in gold.

Brown had just opened the bank, and was at the counter when he was confronted by a masked man, who pointed two revolvers at him. Brown ducked, seized his revolver, and had emptied it without effect before a bullet had struck his head.

The thief gathered into a bag \$500 and ran from the bank, but citizens, alarmed by the shots, were in pursuit before he had covered a block. Within three blocks of the bank he fell before a volley of bullets, still clutching the gold. He has not been identified.

higher up.

CHICKS' CANINE MOTHER.

Dog Takes Care of Brood Hatched by Incubator.

Paulsboro, N. J., March 30.—Mrs. Ella Pliffer has a dog that is caring for fifteen chickens, which were hatched a few days ago from an incubator. Mrs. Pliffer has taught her pet to do most everything but talk, and when the chickens were hatched, she decided to teach the dog to be a nurse, and it is making good thus far. At night the dog is fastened in a coop, and the chickens roost all over it.

Woman Victim's Little Girl Awakened and Calls for Help.

Pittsburgh, March 30.—When Mrs. Oliver Blatchford, of No. 223 Rebecca Street, North Braddock, was rudely awakened from her sleep at 2 o'clock in the morning by a burglar's hands, the hands had been tied to the bedpost. Standing over her was a suave, gentlemanly burglar, dressed in evening clothes.

After ransacking the house thoroughly, the burglar, chagrined and angry at finding nothing of value, returned to Mrs. Blatchford, and struck

FOUND COP'S JOB TOO SOFT.
Three Days on Force Enough for Man Who Likes Real Work.
 Baltimore, March 20.—Complaining that a policeman's job was "too soft," and that he did not like to be "loafing" all the time, Charles J. Foust, knocking over the head with a Jimmy, rendering her unconscious. He then attempted to assault her; but her five-year-old daughter, who was sitting in another room, awoke and screamed.

The child ran to the window and called for help. Becoming frightened, the burglar then dashed from the house and disappeared.

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Their Place.

Only Danger Is That Country
May Suffer From Over-

BY THOMAS C. SHOTWELL.
New York, March 30.—In the past week there have been developments af-

in the security markets. The Turkish Government has said that the Balkan War is now over and, regardless of what the Turks may say. Financially speaking, the end of the war is not yet in sight. The release between \$200,000,000 and \$300,000,000 of gold that is now hoarded by the peasants of Europe. Great loans will be made for the adjustment of political affairs in Europe and the peace will be made in the midst of profound depression, will draw out these millions into hiding places. It is true that Germany in the midst of the industrial collapse, but the severity of the decline in Germany will be intensified by the easier money rates that are now being offered. The world is already making its appearance in more liberal quantities, and reductions of the Bank of England rate must be expected in the near future. Arrangements have been made to prevent a money panic and rates not suffer than those that

ALL possibility of a general war in Europe has passed away. In Mexico the public mind is almost entirely free from peaceful aspirations, and the whole world seems to be about entering a period of comparative peace and order. It is hard to convince some persons that the forces of the extremists that have hurled their thunderbolts at the devoted farmers in this country have not been the cause of the blessings in the shape of soaking rains. These rains have resulted in floods, and the people are suffering from them, but if the floods are the worst on record, then the rainfall must have been the best on record, and the floods must mean that the agricultural districts are entering on the new year in the best of health. It is true that there will be much loss of property lost in the regions close to the banks of the rivers, but the area of the country that is really considered suffering when compared with the

Many farmers have lost heavy, and will find it difficult to get seed, implements and livestock for this season, but for every farmer so injured there is another who has been spared. In the splendid condition of the land it will be found that the fortunate ones will be abundantly able to supply the needs of the injured. Within a month there will be new crops which look back upon the great storms of March as an unequalled blessing. The crops will be over the entire agricultural region and by the first of June so early that the spring plowing will not be materially interfered with. The winter was almost a failure last year, but was almost a failure taken in connection with those great rains, promise to give a bumper yield. Wheat has been practically no winter-killed, and the disking of woods for farmers in these regions except floods, and reserve the low ground for crops that are planted after the season has begun.

Last year the country produced \$10,000,000,000 worth of crops. It is extremely conservative to say that the system of March will increase production 10 per cent, and that means \$500,000,000 more harvest in addition to the \$10,000,000,000 of last year. In the face of such prosperity, the loss of \$20,000,000, or even \$50,000,000, worth of railroad bridges and country and frame houses will be forgotten. It is denying that thousands of individuals are ruined, and perhaps many have been utterly ruined, but the stock market takes account of general prosperity of the country and ignores the individual ownership of the country.

In another week the special session of Congress will be meeting at Washington, and the leaders have already arranged tariff schedules that they propose to vote on. Advance information on these schedules is centered around the fact that they will be very conservative.

The new administration is surprising Wall Street with its conservative financial plans. The inflation plans are being modified in a way that is favorable to the stockholders that company and Southern Pacific. The new Attorney-General has, up to now, indicated that he will feel that the Federal Reserve is not a monopoly, and his record promises to be a pleasant contrast with that of his predecessor, who did most of his damage to the Federal Reserve.

About the only menace to the stock market now is the possibility of too much prosperity in this country. The unhampered money system, devised after the war, has been the cause of the war, was subjected to a severe strain last year by the great crops and the greater crops that are now being produced, and is now threatening a complete collapse. The new administration has an opportunity for

priceless service by reforming the money market, and thus saving the country from the dire financial scares now threatening it. By so doing the party in power might easily retain control of the government, and thus prevent the return of the party of Abraham Lincoln has the United States had such a chance to do good, it is a pity that it has not done so.

So far as the immediate future of the market is concerned, the danger of a collapse from too much property speculation is not so great as it was in 1893. Congress will reform the money laws. The market is in a sold-out condition. The carrying is in strong hands. Brokerage is high. The market is in a sold-out condition. Stocks are heavily short on American and London. Even though one can look for a rise in six months, the danger of manufacturing, due to tariff reform, the mills right now are producing the greatest rate on record. Even the railroads are producing the greatest rate on record. The country is heavily tonnage, due to the rush of goods and materials to repair flood damages and to rebuild the destroyed bridges. It has been so sudden and so profound that

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during the past week a number of business men of Norfolk came up to Reedville on the Great Wicomico River on the steamer Endeavor, of the Norfolk, York River and Tidewater Steamboat Company, with a view to establishing a connection between Norfolk and Reedville to touch also at Swanton and other points on the bay shores of Northumberland and Lancaster. It was decided to put on one steamer during the fishing season, and have the steamer connect with the teamsters of the New York, Philadelphia and Norfolk Railroad at Old Point Comfort in the afternoon so that the fish caught there one day may be put on the Philadelphia and New York markets early the next morning. The promoters of the enterprise hope to establish such business relations with the lower counties of the Northern Neck as to justify them in making this a permanent line.

The target practice of the Atlantic Fleet at the bulk of the old derelict battleship Texas lying off Tangier Island in the Chesapeake Bay and above last week on the Island and the adjacent shores of Accomack in Virginia and Somerset in Maryland, shows were smashed, chimneys knocked down, buildings were made to tremble on their foundations, and it is said that all the buildings were damaged.

greatly damaged that the supply of chickens will be short in that region when the camp-meeting season begins. It is alleged that the Federal Government has consumed over a million dollars worth of powder in trying to demolish the old bulk.

The farmers of Northumberland County held a meeting yesterday at Featherville and formed a union to be known as the Northern Neck Fish and Produce Exchange, modeled after the Eastern Shore Produce Exchange. The county has been of much value to the truckers.

At midnight a five course supper was served in the dining hall to a hundred guests, and during the intermission of the dance a chicken was served from a rustic booth in one corner of the ballroom.

The figures were led by William Gordon Warwick, of Richmond, with Miss Evelyn Byrd Warwick, of Richmond, as the first couple. The following were present: Mrs. C. M. Newman, Mrs. J. S. Robinson, Mrs. N. H. Robinson, Mrs. Ina

[illegible]

last week.

Efforts are being made to have a number of teachers from the Northern Neck counties attend the First District Teachers' Association to be held at Fredericksburg from the 10th to the 5th of April.

CLUB GIVES ITS FIRST DANCE.

One of Most Brilliant of Easter Week Events at V. P. I.

Blacksburg, Va., March 30.—The Cottillion of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute gave its first social dance Friday night. This is a new social club among the students, and the first German was one of the most successful dancers. The dance at the college so far this season. The hall was decorated with pennants, flags and electric lights in colored bulbs, the main feature of the scheme being the rustic effect given the the main stand. An orchestra of five pieces from Roanoke was stationed in an arrangement, surrounded by an old time fence, the moon shining brightly above, and by clever manipulation

Miss Elmeria Chinn, of Norfolk, and Mr. Morrison; Miss Ellen St. Clair, of Roanoke; and Mr. Bellwood; Miss Helen Hoge, of Pearlsburg, and Mr. Gilham; Miss Anna Campbell and R. H. Houston; Miss A. Cora Davidson and Mr. Miller; Miss Antoinette Johnson, of Sweet Briar, and Mr. Randolph; Miss Withers and Mr. Peaseley; Miss Kate Murrill, of Lynchburg, and Colonel Brodie; Miss Mary Murrill, of Lynchburg, and J. M. Evans; Miss Gordon, of Roanoke, and Mr. Boulden; Miss Connie Belvin, of Christiansburg, and Mr. Varnell; Miss Ione Stevens, of Lynchburg, and Mr. M. M. Moshier, of Roanoke, and Mr. Panton; Miss Margaret Gravatt, of Roanoke, and Mr. Olinger.

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